

Consumer Product Safety Commission

§ 1011.4

parties. This term and the term “outside party” are more fully defined in the Commission’s Meeting Policy, 16 CFR part 1012.

§ 1011.3 General requirements for various kinds of meetings.

Meetings which involve Agency staff or the Commissioners, other than Commission meetings, are classified in the following categories and shall be held according to the procedures outlined within each category.

(a) *Hearings.* Hearings are public inquiries held by direction of the Commission for the purpose of fact finding or to comply with statutory requirements. The Office of the Secretary is responsible for providing transcription services at the hearings. Where possible, notice of forthcoming hearings will be published in the Public Calendar and the FEDERAL REGISTER at least 30 days before the date of the hearings.

(b) *Meetings between Commissioners or Agency staff and outside parties.* The requirements for Agency meetings between Commissioners or Agency staff and outside parties involving substantial interest matters are contained in 16 CFR part 1012.

(c) *Commission meetings.* The requirements for Commission meetings under the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b are contained in 16 CFR part 1013.

(d) *Staff meetings.* As a general rule, only Agency employees attend staff meetings. At the discretion of the participants, Staff meetings may be listed on the Public Calendar and attendance by the public may be permitted. Recordkeeping is at the discretion of the participants.

(e) *Advisory committee meetings.* Meetings of the Agency’s advisory committees are scheduled by the Commission. Advance notice will be given in both the Public Calendar and the FEDERAL REGISTER. Advisory committee meetings serve as a forum for discussion of matters relevant to the Agency’s statutory responsibilities with the objective of providing advice and recommendations to the Commission. The Agency’s advisory committees are the National Advisory Committee for the Flammable Fabrics Act, the Product

Safety Advisory Council, the Technical Advisory Committee on Poison Prevention Packaging and the Toxicological Advisory Board. The Office of the Secretary is responsible for the recordkeeping for such meetings. The Commission’s regulation for the management of its advisory committees is set out in 16 CFR part 1018.

§ 1011.4 Forms of advance public notice of meetings; Public Calendar/Master Calendar and Federal Register.

Advance notice of Agency activities is provided so that members of the public may know of and participate in these activities to the fullest extent possible. Where appropriate, the Commission uses the following types of notice for both Agency meetings subject to 16 CFR part 1012 and Commission meetings subject to 16 CFR part 1013:

(a) *Public Calendar/Master Calendar.* (1) The printed Public Calendar and the Master Calendar maintained in the Office of the Secretary are the principal means by which the Agency notifies the public of its day-to-day activities. The Public Calendar and/or Master Calendar provide advance notice of public hearings, Commission meetings, Agency meetings with outside parties involving substantial interest matters, other Agency meetings, selected staff meetings, advisory committee meetings, and other activities such as speeches and participation in panel discussions, regardless of the location. The Public Calendar also lists recent CPSC FEDERAL REGISTER issuances and Advisory Opinions of the Office of the General Counsel.

(2) Upon request in writing to the Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207, any person or organization will be sent the Public Calendar on a regular basis free of charge. In addition, interested persons may contact the Office of the Secretary to obtain information from the Master Calendar which is kept current on a daily basis.

(3) The Public Calendar and the Master Calendar, supplemented by meeting summaries, are intended to serve the requirements of section 27(j)(8) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2076(j)(8)).

(b) *Federal Register*. FEDERAL REGISTER is the publication through which official notifications, including formal rules and regulations of the Agency, are made. Because the Public Calendar and/or Master Calendar are the primary devices through which the Agency notifies the public of its routine, daily activities, the FEDERAL REGISTER will be utilized only when required by the Government in the Sunshine Act (as provided in 16 CFR part 1013) or other applicable law, or when the Agency believes that the additional coverage which the FEDERAL REGISTER can provide is necessary to assist in notification to the public of important meetings.

PART 1012—MEETINGS POLICY— MEETINGS BETWEEN AGENCY PERSONNEL AND OUTSIDE PAR- TIES

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SOURCE: 46 FR 38323, July 24, 1981, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1012.1 General policy considerations; scope.

(a) To achieve its goals of involving the public in its activities and conducting its business in an open manner, the Agency, whenever practicable, shall notify the public in advance of all meetings involving matters of substantial interest held or attended by its personnel, and shall permit the public to attend such meetings. Furthermore, to ensure the widest possible exposure of the details of such meetings, the

Agency will keep records of them freely available for inspection by the public.

(b) This part 1012, the Agency's Meetings Policy, sets forth requirements for advance public notice, public attendance, and recordkeeping for Agency meetings.

§ 1012.2 Definitions.

(a) As used in this part 1012, the following terms have the respective meanings set forth in paragraphs (a)–(d) of §1011.2 of this subchapter: “Agency,” “Agency staff,” “Commissioner,” “Commission.”

(b) *Agency meeting*. Any face-to-face encounter, other than a Commission meeting subject to the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b, and part 1013, in which one or more employees, including Commissioners, discusses with an outside party any subject relating to the Agency or any subject under its jurisdiction. The term Agency meeting does not include telephone conversations, but see §1012.8 which relates to telephone conversations.

(c) *Outside party*. Any person not an employee, not under contract to do work for the Agency, or not acting in an official capacity as a consultant to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, such as advisory committee members or offeror personnel. Examples of persons falling within this definition are representatives from industry and consumer groups. Members of the news media when acting in a newsgathering capacity are not outside parties. (See also §1012.7.) Officers and employees of the Federal Government when acting in their official capacities (except when advocating a particular course of action on behalf of an outside party) are not outside parties.

(d) *Substantial interest matter*. Any matter, other than that of a trivial nature, that pertains in whole or in part to any issue that is likely to be the subject of a regulatory or policy decision by the Commission. Pending matters, i.e., matters before the Agency in which the Agency is legally obligated to make a decision, automatically constitute substantial interest matters. Examples of pending matters are: Scheduled administrative hearings;